

# JOURNEY'S END

## **HARDY: What purpose does he serve in the play? (Answer Sheet)**

Hardy appears at the start of Act I and serves to give information to the audience about the conditions in the trenches that the soldiers would have to endure. It is essential that the audience understand the conditions, not only so that they can follow the play but so that they can see how ill-informed Raleigh is of the conditions.

### **What information does he give?**

Look closely at pages 1-4 and copy down the quotations that provide information on the following subjects:

#### **Drinking Water**

"Don't have too much water. It's rather strong today...Some sort of disinfectant, I suppose." (p.1-2)

#### **Wet Trenches**

"Excuse my sock...Guaranteed to keep the feet dry. Trouble is, it gets so wet doing it." (p.2)

#### **Fighting**

"Sometimes nothing happens for hours on end; then - all of a sudden - "over she comes!" - rifle grenades - Minnies - and those horrid little things like pineapples..." (p.2)

#### **German Attack**

"you know the big German attack's expected any day now...There's more transport than usual coming up...bringing up loads and loads of men." (p.2-3)

#### **Length of stay**

"Are you here for six days?" (p.3)

#### **Size of front controlled**

"We hold about two hundred yards of front line. We've got a Lewis gun just here - and one here..." (p.3)

#### **Sleeping arrangements**

"The servants and signallers sleep in there. Two officers in here, and three in there." (p.3)

#### **Sleeping conditions**

"The ones in the other dug-out haven't got any bottoms to them. You keep yourself in by hanging your arms and legs over the sides. Mustn't hang your legs too low, or the rats gnaw your boots." (p.4)

#### **Number of rats**

"I should say - roughly - about two million." (p.4)